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IRONBOUND THEATRE
179 Van Buren St.
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IRONBOUND THEATRE



OUR FIFTH ANNIVERSARY!

Steve Gravatt
Artistic Director

Paul Whelihan
Managing Director

YOU CAN SEE THE EXCITEMENT ON OUR FACES!



COME CELEBRATE OUR FIFTH YEAR AS THE AREA'S MOST INNOVATIVE THEATRE COMPANY. Join us as a subscriber member through this very special offer to our 1987-88 Mainstage Season.

YOU'LL SAVE almost 20% on our already low standard ticket prices!

YOU'LL HAVE FLEXIBILITY! You'll receive a membership card that will entitle you to the performances of your choice. If you'd like to specify the night you'll attend, fine! If you can't commit yourself that far in advance, fine! This year we're offering an **OPEN MEMBERSHIP**, which will let you use your subscription admissions whenever and however you want.

YOU'LL BE GLAD YOU JOINED THE PARTY! You'll receive exclusive invitations to all our 5th Anniversary galas and special events. You'll have easy accessible parking, and you'll enjoy discount coupons to the area's fine restaurants. And of course, you'll experience the fine theatre entertainment that only **IRONBOUND THEATRE** can offer!

IRONBOUND THEATRE 1987-88 FIFTH ANNIVERSARY SEASON

"The acting ensemble works well together, each actor giving a finely crafted performance..."

THE HOBOKEN REPORTER

"The theatre's location is just one of its many surprises...the Ironbound is a theatre to watch."

THE STAR LEDGER

THE BIRDS

new adaption by John Rouse

Is there such a thing as a perfect society? Does it exist high above the clouds? And can you ask a large talking bird for directions? These questions and more will be answered in this modern version of the classic comedy by Aristophanes. Full of laughs, spectacle and action, this show proves to be an Ironbound favorite.

NOV 6, 7, 13, 14, 19, 20, 21

THE GOLDEN HANDSHAKE

This tale of glib deceit and obsessive drive by Jersey City's Robert Sturmer is another in the continuing series of I.T.'s new plays. This original script is a brassy and colorful look at the hustle for success by an insurance salesman in a small Newark office. It's a lively full-blown drama of hucksterism as an idealistic young man learns the "tricks of the trade."

FEB 19, 20, 26, 27, MAR 3, 4, 5

IT'S A HIT!

Our final presentation will be announced once our season is underway. We are considering the American drama OF MICE AND MEN, the musical revue TINTYPES, or a new work discovered in our PLAYSEARCH staged reading series. We are full of ideas but open to suggestions! Let us know what you think and by all means, don't miss this season finale, SURE TO BE A HIT!

MAY 13, 14, 20, 21, 26, 27, 28

"...Superior performances such as these deserve your attention..."

THE NORTH JERSEY HERALD-NEWS

"...I'd forgotten that this theatre was not in the Village, but rather 'down neck'...that realization provoked in me a definite sense of happiness."

THE OBSERVER

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IRONBOUND THEATRE
1987-88 SEASON

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Please check the performances of your choice.

THE BIRDS	GOLDEN HANDSHAKE	IT'S A HIT!
<input type="checkbox"/> Fri 11/6	<input type="checkbox"/> Fri 2/19	<input type="checkbox"/> Fri 5/13
<input type="checkbox"/> Sat 11/7	<input type="checkbox"/> Sat 2/20	<input type="checkbox"/> Sat 5/14
<input type="checkbox"/> Fri 11/13	<input type="checkbox"/> Fri 2/26	<input type="checkbox"/> Fri 5/20
<input type="checkbox"/> Sat 11/14	<input type="checkbox"/> Sat 2/27	<input type="checkbox"/> Sat 5/21
<input type="checkbox"/> Thu 11/19	<input type="checkbox"/> Thu 3/3	<input type="checkbox"/> Thu 5/26
<input type="checkbox"/> Fri 11/20	<input type="checkbox"/> Fri 3/4	<input type="checkbox"/> Fri 5/27
<input type="checkbox"/> Sat 11/21	<input type="checkbox"/> Sat 3/5	<input type="checkbox"/> Sat 5/28

☐ OPEN MEMBERSHIP

	NO. OF SEATS	PRICE PER	TOTAL
STANDARD		\$20.00	\$
SENIOR		\$15.00	\$
I wish to become a sponsor of Ironbound Theatre by giving a tax deductible contribution of			\$
TOTAL DUE			\$

PLEASE NOTE:

Programs subject to change. All performances at 8 p.m.
Subscription payments are non-refundable.

MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO
IRONBOUND THEATRE, INC.
179 Van Buren St., Newark, NJ 07105

INFO: 201-792-3524

THE BIRDS



Ironbough Theatre

Newark Theatre Misc

IRONBOUND THEATRE, INC.
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(note...continued)

acquire and succeed that seemed to infect most of Athens
like a virus. The play was performed in Athens in 414, B.C.

IRONBOUND THEATRE

179 Van Buren Street

Newark, New Jersey 07105

201 - 792-3524

STAFF

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IRONBOUND THEATRE

proudly presents

ARISTOPHANES'

THE BIRDS

Adapted by

JOHN ROUSE and MICHAEL PRICE

Scenic and Lighting Design by

RANDALL McCANN



Costumes Designed by

MARIBETH HAMBLIN

Directed by

MICHAEL PRICE

NOVEMBER, 1987 FIFTH ANNIVERSARY SEASON

TRINITY REFORMED CHURCH AUDITORIUM

* * * * *

A note on the play

Aristophanes (448 - 380 B.C.) was the leading comic poet of his day and is still regarded as one of the great comic writers of all time. In comedies such as *THE CLOUDS*, *THE FROGS*, *THE WASPS*, and, his masterpiece, *LYSISTRATA*, Aristophanes used mythical or fantastical settings, larger-than-life characters and fable like stories as vehicles for his mixture of barbed lampoons of government officials, writers and other public figures and his slicing satire of the follies of humanity and the excesses of the Athenian state. In *THE BIRDS*, Aristophanes mocked the almost manic restlessness of his Athenian contemporaries and satirized the compulsive drive to win, (continued on back cover)

THE BIRDS

C A S T
(In order of appearance)

Pisthetairos, an Athenian.....GREGG THOMAS
Eulpides, another Athenian.....BART SUMNER
The Hoopoe.....ALEXANDRA TARQUINIO
The Birds.....LUCY VARGAS
MARTHA STILSON, KAREN WELLES, MARK ALCARO,
RICKEY N. SMITH, HARRY A. BROWN
A Prophet.....RANDALL McCANN
A Real Estate Salesman.....STEVEN ROSENBAUM
A Military Governor.....DIRK KEYSER
A Justice.....WILLIS MIDDLETON
Iris, the fleet - a Goddess.....WILLIS MIDDLETON
A Herald.....STEVEN ROSENBAUM
A Juvenile Delinquent.....DIRK KEYSER
A Private Eye.....RANDALL McCANN
A Bimbo.....WILLIS MIDDLETON
Prometheus.....STEVEN ROSENBAUM
Poseidon, God of the Sea.....RANDALL McCANN
Hercules.....STEVEN ROSENBAUM
Triballos, A Redneck God.....DIRK KEYSER
Sovereignty, a Goddess of Power.....WILLIS MIDDLETON

* * * * *

T H E T I M E
ANCIENT GREECE...about two weeks ago

T H E P L A C E
A deserted spot about twenty miles from Athens

* * * * *

THERE WILL BE ONE FIFTEEN MINUTE INTERMISSION

* * * * *

Tonight's performance will be introduced by
Dr. Leander J. Herbstritt of Stockton State College

THIS PLAYBILL IS WORTH 20% OFF A 1987-88 SUBSCRIPTION
SUBSCRIBE TONIGHT AT THE BOX OFFICE AND SAVE!

Production Staff

Director.....Michael Price
Stage Manager.....Leslie R. Becker
Lighting.....L. Robert Johnson
Master Carpenter.....Randall McCann
Production Coordinator.....Steve Gravatt
T-Shirts designed by.....Shirley Woodnorth
Buttons by.....Ed Garlette
Poster Design.....Michael Price
Costume Design.....Maribeth Hamblin

* * * * *

IRONBOUND THEATRE would like to extend a
special thank you to the following:

Greg Bernucca, Independence Inc., Margaret Woods, Peter
Cutty, Phil Yourish, Public Service Electric & Gas,
Mutual Benefit Life Insurance, Harvey Glick, and, as
always...The Revellers.

* * * * *

Who's Who?

GREGG THOMAS (Pisthetairos) - is a frequent performer at
Ironbound Theatre as well as a founding member of the
company. He is happy to be working under the direction
of Michael Price again, with whom he has worked on
several productions, including HAPPY BIRTHDAY, WANDA
JUNE, LONE STAR and on the I.T. stage in TALLEY'S FOLLY
and SONGSPIEL. Gregg will be directing THE GOLDEN
HANDSHAKE in February and would like to thank I.T.'s
patrons for their five years of support.

BART SUMNER (Eulpides) - is a graduate of Rutgers
University with a B.A. in Theatre Arts. While there, he
appeared in several productions as well as appearing
with the Shoestring Players, an improvisational
Children's Theatre Group. He has been seen for the last
five years with Plays in the Park in Edison, NJ. He
can also be seen starring in VIDEO VIOLENCE, and its'
soon to be released sequel in video stores everywhere.
Bart claims to have gone through a spiritual
transformation thanks to this show and is planning on

WHO'S WHO (continued)

starting a national boycott of Kentucky Fried Chicken.

ALEXANDRA TARQUINIO (Hoopoe) - makes her Ironbound debut as the half human/half bird Hoopoe. She is currently appearing as Minni the Cat in the Wings Theatre Co.'s production of THE CAT IN THE CASTLE. Her human roles include a penitenti monk in the recent production of the opera STABAT MATER at Saint John the Divine. She performed the part of a bimbo in a piece of her own writing at the Ernie Martin Studio last June. Her summer stock credits include Sweet Ann Page in THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR and Virtue in ANYTHING GOES. Her film credits are too numerous to mention here (so just take her word for it, okay?).

LUCY VARGAS (Bird) - studied acting and dance at Rutgers University where she received a B.A. in Journalism. Her favorite role has been the Bride in an Off-Broadway production of BLOOD WEDDING this summer. The show will re-open in December. Other recent credits include a P.S.A. for Community Foods in New York and a new film being released this summer, MAXIMUM THRUST.

MARTHA STILSON (Bird) - makes her Ironbound Theatre debut with THE BIRDS. For most of her career, Martha has been a dancer and choreographer. For several years she ran the Evans-Stilson Choreocollective, which she also founded. Martha lives in Manhattan.

KAREN WELLES (Bird) - spent her summer playing the Virgin Mary in Tennessee's Smoky Mountain Passion Play and returns to New York to play a Bird in Newark. Her rolls include Moll in THE CRADLE WILL ROCK, Anne in RICHARD III, Nanny in BABY WITH THE BATHWATER, Kate in OLD TIMES and Catherine in WAITING FOR THE PARADE. She studied with Sanford Meisner at the Neighborhood Playhouse.

MARK ALCARO (Bird) - makes his Ironbound debut with THE BIRDS, but he is no stranger to Newark, having been born here. Mark has appeared with several of the leading community theatres in the state, most notably Parish Players in Plainfield, where he acted in HOW TO SUCCEED IN BUSINESS..., LEADER OF THE PACK and THE ME NOBODY KNOWS and Studio Players in Montclair where he appeared in LION IN WINTER. Mark has a B.A in psychology from Rutgers University.

WHO'S WHO (continued)

MICHAEL PRICE (Director/Adaptor) - begins his third season as a director at Ironbound Theatre, although he has been a friend and associate of the company since its' inception. At I.T., Michael has directed TALLEY'S FOLLY, SONGSPIEL: A CELEBRATION OF BRECHT & WEILL and MASTER HAROLD...AND THE BOYS. He has also directed several staged readings for Ironbound's Playsearch program, which he now coordinates. Michael is a graduate of Montclair State College and has an MFA in directing from Tulane University, New Orleans, where he directed productions of AMERICAN BUFFALO, COMING ATTRACTIONS and THE ALCHEMIST. He has also acted in several I.T. productions, most recently the New York production of ONCE UPON A TIME THERE WAS A FAMILY. When not working at I.T., Michael is a resident stage manager at Forum Theatre Group in Metuchen.

JOHN ROUSE (Adaptor) - is a member of the faculty of Tulane University, where a different, earlier version of this script, which he directed, was performed. He received an MFA in directing from Temple University and his PhD in Dramatic Literature from Stanford University. He is an accomplished actor, director and Theatre Scholar; his articles have appeared in several major publications such as The Drama Review and Theatre Journal.

LESLIE R. BECKER (Stage Manager/Sound Design) - This marks Leslie's sixth affiliation with I.T. as sound designer. Her past credits include sound for COMING ATTRACTIONS, THE EXECUTION and BABY WITH THE BATHWATER. She stage managed and composed original music for the Theatrical Trust Company's production of MUD.

MARIBETH HAMBLIN (Costume Designer) - is designing her first production for I.T. She has extensive experience as a designer and craftsman. A graduate of Montclair State College, Maribeth worked on over 25 productions during her stay there, including designs for CHICAGO, DISTANT THUNDER and THE REAL INSPECTOR HOUND. She owns and operates D & D Silk Floral and Foliage in Hackensack.

DR. LEANDER J. HERBSTRIIT (Host) - is a distinguished member of the Classics Dept. at Stockton State College in Pomona, NJ, where for many years his seminar course, "The Oedipus Complex and You" has been one of the most popular on campus. He is also the author of several scholarly books, theses and dissertations on Ancient Greek Literature, and is looking forward to the upcoming publication of his latest book, a collection of Ancient Greek jokes entitled EURIPEDES?...YES; EUMENIDES? The Doctor is pleased to help I.T. in their effort to historically recreate the Ancient Greek comedies of Aristophanes.



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IRONBOUND THEATRE
1987-88 FIFTH ANNIVERSARY SEASON

I would like to keep in touch with IRONBOUND THEATRE.
Please make sure I'm on your mailing list to receive
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Department of State, Independence Inc., and various
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upon the interest and generosity of our patrons to help
us grow, expanding and improving the cultural
alternatives we provide to area residents and visitors.
Won't you join the Theatre as a contributing member with
your tax deductible contribution?

**YES! I REALIZE THAT IRONBOUND THEATRE IS AN IMPORTANT
CULTURAL RESOURCE WHICH DEPENDS UPON MY SUPPORT. I would
like to become a member of the Theatre with the following
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I _____ pledge _____ enclose my gift of: \$ _____

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THANK YOU!

WHO'S WHO (continued)

RICKEY N. SMITH (Bird) - is making his New Jersey debut in THE BIRDS. A graduate of the American Academy of Dramatic Arts, Rickey has appeared in many plays including LI'L ABNER, ANNIE GET YOUR GUN, GOLDEN BOY, COUNTRY GIRL, GREASE, AS YOU LIKE IT, DOES A TIGER WEAR A NECKTIE?, INNOCENT THOUGHTS HARMLESS INTENTIONS, and ONE FLEW OVER THE CUCKOO'S NEST. Rickey is a former member of the Wooden "O" Workshop, West 79th Street. NY, New York. He is in the film, AN AFTERNOON IN THE PARK.

HARRY A. BROWN (Bird Leader) - has been I.T.'s publicist since November 1983. Last year, he originated the role of Pvt. Commonweal in I.T.'s THE EXECUTION, which moved to Off-Broadway. Also at I.T. he played Renfield in THE PASSION OF DRACULA and the Coachman in THE BEAR. A graduate of Montclair State College, he has also worked with the New Theatre of North Jersey, The Whole Theatre Co., City Lights Theatre and Butler Theatre. Harry sometimes wonders where it all leads to...

RANDALL McCANN (Prophet, et al., Light & Scenic Design) - is living proof that Rutgers University is not the school it used to be. He has appeared in several I.T. staged readings, most recently Kenn Adams' PARADISE PARK LOST. At the New Jersey Repertory Theatre he appeared as Paul in LOOSE ENDS, Lorenzo Miller in GOD and Paul Cowan in END OF THE WORLD. Randy has also served as I.T.'s resident designer for ONCE UPON A TIME THERE WAS A FAMILY (which he also directed), TALLEY'S FOLLY and MASTER HAROLD...AND THE BOYS among others.

STIEVE ROSENBAUM (Real Estate Salesman, et al.) - is making his Newark, NJ debut with this production. His only other Newark experience was having his luggage stolen at the airport, but c'est la vie! His last appearance was in QUASIMODO, a new musical, as part of the Byrdcliff Festival in Woodstock, NY. He can also be seen in the recently released video COMIC CABBY as the mugger —no type casting please! He studies acting with Robert Lewis.

DIRK KEYSER (Military Governor, et al.) - Dirk has no history. He was recently relocated as part of the Government's witness relocation program.

WILLIS MIDDLETON (Justice, et al.) - is pleased to be making her Newark debut at Ironbound Theatre. She is a recent graduate of Tulane University in New Orleans, receiving a BFA in Acting. There she appeared in many comic roles: THE ALCHEMIST, also directed by Michael Price, WOYZECK and THE PLAYBOY OF THE WESTERN WORLD. She spent her senior year at Lehigh University, where she also performed many comic parts. It feels good to be back up North and in New Jersey!

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C L O U D C U C K O O L A N D N A T I O N A L A N T H E M

- - Written by: PISTHETAIROS - -

- - Arranged by: PISTHETAIROS - -

- - First performed by: YOU - -

To be sung: Viva Voce & With No Hold-Outs (we know where you live!)

Oh beautiful, for swarming skies,

For amber waves of cranes,

For purple peacock's majesties,

Atop the weather vanes!

Cloudcuckooland, Cloudcuckooland,

Thy virtues make us proud,

And crown thy good, with Cuckoohood,

From cloud to shining cloud!

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